

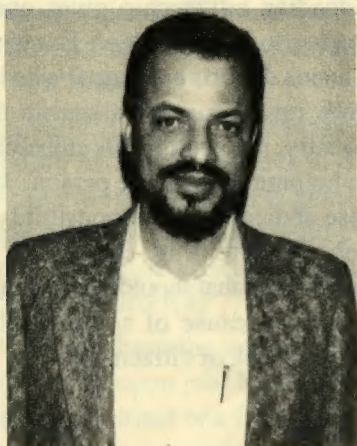


*The official publication of  
The Jamaican Canadian  
Association*

# OCUS

June/July 1996

*Serving the Black & Caribbean Community for 34 Years*



*Herman Stewart, JCA President*

## New President Veteran Board Member

formidable fundraising job to do for our new building. We also need to strengthen our membership base and our leadership in the community, and find creative ways to survive in a new environment of government cutbacks."

Over his 15 years of service to the JCA, Herman has chaired Education, Fund-raising and Membership committees. He works as a mediator with the Ontario Ministry of Labour, and has been a vice-president of the Ontario Federation of Labour. He has received a Ministry of Citizenship volunteer award.

Outgoing president Karl Fuller served for four years and coordinated both the sale of the old JCA facilities on Dupont Street and the purchase of larger premises at Arrow Road (near Highway 400 and the 401). Plans for the new premises, which already has leased space to business, include space for community and JCA program activities.

"I am proud of where we are today," says Fuller. "The JCA is at critical juncture in its history, but I am confident that our members and our community will surmount the challenges that face us."

Other newly elected members of the JCA Board include Second Vice-President Alton Telfer, Education Chair Vincent Conville, Membership Chair Alfred Irving, and Assistant Secretary Jacqueline Keane. Re-elected were Treasurer Cynthia Anderson and Social Chair Barbara Thomas.

Sandra Carnegie Douglas continues as First Vice-President, and Maureen Smart as Executive Secretary.

**Herman Stewart**, a provincial mediator and former first-vice president of the Jamaican Canadian Association, was elected JCA President by acclamation at the May Annual General Meeting.

His priority will be to oversee the large-scale renovation of the JCA's new headquarters in North York, purchased in March 1996, while continuing to provide a leadership voice on issues affecting the Black and Caribbean community.

"Our organization has matured into a strong voice on issues affecting the social well being of our community," says Stewart. "These next few years will be challenging ones for the JCA. We have a

### *Inside Highlights*

Editorial .....	2
Focus on Change .....	3
President's Message .....	4
Churches & the JCA .....	6
Youth Violence .....	7

## Citizenship Safeguards Your Rights

Landed immigrants in Canada should acquire their Canadian citizenship if they intend to make Canada their home. Landed status is no substitute for citizenship. It does not protect individuals from being thrown out Canada, or entitle them to all the benefits available to Canadian citizens (e.g., the right to leave the country for as long as they want, the right to vote in a provincial or federal election, the right to work with all levels of government, and eligibility to become jurors).

Parents who sponsor children under the age of 18 have the obligation and responsibility to make sure they and their children become Canadian citizens as soon as it is legally possible. Under normal circumstances, for example, where there is no criminal record, one can apply for citizenship after living in Canada for three consecutive years as a landed immigrant. The current

application fee is \$200 for adults and \$100 for children. Adults must take and pass a civic test.

Children are not aware of, nor do they understand, the importance of attaining citizenship. Many grow into men and women without paying any attention to their status. Therefore, it is incumbent on parents to do the right thing so their children's rights and privileges can be assured.

The issue of residency status usually arises where individuals are in conflict with law.

The recent deportation of 22-year-old Owen Dale Campbell is an example all immigrant parents and children can learn from. Campbell came to Canada when he was 17 months old. His parents and guardians neglected to apply for him to become a Canadian citizen and

now he is back in Jamaica where he knows no one and has no immediate relatives.

Campbell's deportation was a result of criminal convictions, but that is beside the point. If he had been a Canadian citizen, the option of deportation would not have been available.

This is not to suggest that obtaining Canadian citizenship gives one a license to break the law. But when Canada deports a criminal who has been raised and socialized in this country, it is avoiding its culpability in helping to form the person. It is also abdicating its responsibility to rehabilitate that offender, an entitlement that should not be denied simply because of a technicality such as lack of citizenship.

### In Focus

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Herman Stewart  
Sandra Carnegie-Douglas  
Elaine Thompson

**Congratulations!** Rita McLean, Counsellor for the JCA's Violence Against Women Program, was one of 20 women to receive a *Remarkable Women Award* from the Ruby Willis Counselling Centre on June 1. The award recognizes contributions to the eradication of violence against women and children.



Rita has worked with the JCA for approximately 15 months, helping many women to overcome or deal with abusive situations. With Rita's assistance, many women have gained access to education, housing, employment and emergency shelter for themselves and their children.

## Focus On What We Can Change Now

Akwatu Khenti  
Executive Director

You are probably wondering if we should spend time examining how bad things are, how terrible some of our youth are behaving and how racist the system is. The answer is no.

We already know how bad things are, the vast extent of youth alienation, and the system of racist barriers that has existed in one form or another since 1628 when the first enslaved Black child was brought to New France.

We should focus our energies, instead, on means we have at our disposal to change things, beginning right now. We should spend our time trying to create jobs and educating ourselves.

We should focus the major portion of our time upon jobs because this issue is a critical one for all of the people in our community and for

the future of our youth. Right now, the JCA is exploring almost every government and private sector route that can help us provide summer jobs. We created five summer positions so far, and are looking to create more. We are also planning to maintain some student/youth employment positions throughout the year.

One thing is certain: What the community does not support on its own will not last long. We should continue to challenge our Black business and professional community to either create employment and training opportunities for youth, or to support others in this effort. The community must pay for what it needs, and ask for what it wants; rather than the other way around.

Besides job creation, we should also focus attention on how we educate and discipline ourselves. How is it that the people who enshrined respect for elders, for authority and for rules now have so many members who turn away from those principles?

Currently, JCA staff are developing a program aimed at providing or reminding young and old alike about values such as conscientiousness, creativity, credibility, and control, and about our history, our culture and our economic and scientific potential. It is called the Dignity Program and should be in place by mid-summer.

We must remove garbage from our minds and it is not difficult. Stop buying, listening and believing music that tells us violence is the way to go. Stop watching programs that tell us the Black man is a bum and nothing else.

*continued on page 9*

## Welcome to a new building, a new direction

Jeffery S. Patterson

After years at Dupont Street in downtown Toronto, the Jamaican Canadian Association has moved uptown to its new Centre, bringing along a new direction.

Our Association has been moving with urgency to set in place a flow of fund-raising support to bring it closer to the start of the building renovation. The members are waiting hopefully and expectantly to enjoy their new building, with all the added facilities. A cautious sense of optimism now pervades the community.

This is an opportune time for both our members and our community to become more involved. Write to the Board of Directors. Make a financial contribution, and let them know the kinds of events and activities that would interest you and that you would like to see undertaken by JCA. To those members with special expertise or ideas that would provide meaningful input and enhance the Association's well-being, volunteer your service by joining one of the Standing Committees.

Whatever comes of the Association's efforts to revitalize its members and the community in the long and short run, one thing at least has changed; the agenda of concerns has now been shifted to finance and financial management. This shift in the agenda of concerns will mean that an atmosphere will be created in which members, one and all, can settle down to tackle the steep but surmountable economic task.

## Fund-raising, Membership Our Top Priorities

Herman Stewart, President

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the membership for having confidence in me to elect me JCA's president. Most of you are aware that I am an action-oriented person and my promise to you is that over the next two years, I will work very hard to maintain your confidence and to uphold the goals and objectives of our Association.

I have set myself some priorities which will be presented to the Board for their endorsement.

The number one priority will be fund-raising. The current Fund-raising Committee and their plans will remain in force. However, we are going to launch a corporate fund-raising drive. We will be calling on some former JCA presidents to help us get this initiative off the ground. I am confident that our fund-raising initiatives will be successful, which will mean that our dream community centre will become a reality. Currently, we are working with the architect to prepare our drawings so that we can apply to North York for rezoning.

The second priority is the need to broaden our membership base. I believe this can be accomplished by finding ways to retain new members. We have to become more visible in

the community. This can be achieved in two ways:

1. We need to establish a closer working relationship with other groups in our community. This is important also because in unity we will find strength.

*We need to establish a closer working relationship with other groups in our community...in unity we will find strength...We have to become more vocal in terms of advocacy on issues that have a direct impact on our community.*

2. We have to become more vocal in terms of advocacy on issues that have a direct impact on our community. Some of the issues are policing, employment equity and race relations.

I have written to the Ontario Minister of Citizenship requesting a meeting to discuss employment equity and race relations. I have also written to Mayor Barbara Hall of the City of Toronto expressing our concerns regarding the hiring practices of the Toronto Fire Department. We are also requesting a meeting with her.

Finally, we have to find a way to reach our young people. School by school, mall by mall, we will reach them. The Black on Black violence must stop. We can no longer pretend

that we don't have problems with our youth. We must do whatever it takes to reach these young people before it is too late. This is a commitment that I will work hard at.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to the immediate past-president, Karl Fuller, for the hard work he did over the past four years. I am very pleased that he has agreed to work closely with

me on our building renovation plans for the next six months. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to all those members who served on the Board during the past year, and I hope you will continue to serve the Association.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

*Herman Stewart*  
Signature

## New and Ongoing Board Members Need Your Help

Alton Telfer, 2nd Vice-President

A few new faces were elected to the Executive Board at the May 26 Annual General Meeting. I was elected Second Vice-President. However, I hasten to say that I do not consider myself a new face on the Executive because in the past, I served in various capacities.

The Association needs all of us now more than ever. We should align ourselves to give the help and support necessary to move the Association forward.

We need to get our newly acquired building fully operational so that we can administer our programs more efficiently. Ms. Pat Williams, our newly elected chair for the Fund-raising Committee, will be calling on you for your support and we are counting on you to respond favourably in whatever way you can. If you have any ideas or assistance for the Building Fund Drive, please leave a message for Pat at the JCA office (416) 746-5772.

Another area of major concern is membership for which Mr. Fred

Irving is the newly-elected Chair. It is imperative that the Association increase its membership base drastically. We should all embark on a recruiting campaign. All members should encourage their friends and family to join up and get on board. Members

who have not paid their membership fee for 1996 and previous years are urged to do so now. Just send a cheque or money order payable to the JCA along with your name, address and telephone number. Our mailing address is 995 Arrow Road, North York, ON M9M 2Z5.

Mr. Vincent Conville is the newly elected Education Chair, who is counting on your assistance to revitalize the committee.

Ms. Amy Nelson retains the Building Committee Chair, and her task remains challenging. However, she will manage well from her experience overseeing the Dupont Street Centre, and also with your ongoing support.

Ms. Barbara Thomas was re-elected to the Social Committee Chair, and is expected to repeat her strong performance with your continued support.

Let us all work together to make 1996 a very pleasant year to remember in JCA.



Members of the newly elected JCA Board: back row (l to r) Alfred Irving, Maureen Smart, Barbara Thomas, Cynthia Anderson; Front row (l to r) Amy Nelson, Alton Telfer, Herman Stewart, Patricia Williams.

## The JCA Pal Program

Designed to provide a supportive one-on-one relationship between a Black youth and a caring adult, the Pal Program gives young Black youth a sense of identity, history and belonging and simultaneously offers adults the opportunity to contribute to the future. Currently, we are seeking volunteers to sit on the program's Advisory Committee and/or to become big pals.

To volunteer, call 740-1558.

## Churches and the JCA: a Partnership Long Overdue

Heather Williams, Manager, YFS

The recent town hall meeting organized by the JCA and some of Toronto's Black churches was symbolic: it was the first in a long time that the churches have come together to work with community groups for a common goal. This is a partnership many felt was long overdue.

Many thoughts were echoed throughout the auditorium that Wednesday night, but two stand out very clearly. Firstly, this forum must be the start of a new direction for our community. It cannot be just another "meeting", some concrete action must come out of this, and we must start *now!!!!*

Secondly, it is impossible to do this alone. Disillusioned youth and the increasing violence are problems that transcend all communities. We need to link with other community groups. It is also essential for professional people who hold economic power to come forward and play a role in positively shaping our young people.

The audience was touch by a youth who was once on a path to self-destruction. He described how he has turned his life around since finding God. He moved many in the audience to tears. Maybe some were thinking, *What about my child? What about my son?*

The evening ended with a heartfelt plenary by the Reverend Pat Francis, who with her gracious voice encouraged us all to make a difference.

The JCA and the churches must be applauded for their effort, and we need to get other denominations involved. Those of you who think there is no hope for our community, remember this: the one thing grander than the sea is the sky, and the one thing greater than the sea is the spirit of the human being.

## Wife assault seminar explores issues

Rita McLean, Counsellor, Violence Against Women Program

In March, the JCA's Violence Against Women Program hosted a seminar on wife assault and family violence at the Ontario Institute for Studies In Education (OISE). The seminar, *Wife Assault Within The Family Unit; The Neglected Issues*, involved speakers from diverse community and legal backgrounds.

Akwatu Khenti, JCA's Executive Director opened the seminar by saying that for violence should not be accepted in any form, including in music.

Other speakers discussed the effect of socializing men into a culture of violence, the inadequate response of the justice system to wife assault, the effect of social service cutbacks on the options available to women in abusive relationships, immigrant and refugee women's experience with spousal assault, abused women's need for training and access to services to help them survive economically, and the incidence of abuse of women patients by doctors.

In closing this day-long event, I had the opportunity to comment that we all must continue to support and believe women and children who are being abused. It is important to talk about the problems — to recognize that violence against women and violence in the family affects all aspects of our lives.

## Issues and Solutions Around Youth Violence

Yasmin Thomas,  
Counsellor, ISAP

On Wednesday May 29, 1996, a Town Hall Meeting was convened at the Lawrence Heights Community Centre to address the issue of youth violence in the Black community.

The meeting was organized through a partnership between the Jamaican Canadian Association and five community churches: Revival Time Tabernacle, Deeper Life Christian Ministries, Lisle Memorial Baptist Churches, Church of God of Prophecy and Straight to the Ministry. Approximately 150 people attended.

The meeting identified a number of factors which contribute to youth violence and possible solutions to the problem; these factors and solutions are outlined in the sidebar.

The Church of God of Prophecy will sponsor children to attend their summer camp, and the Deeper Life Christian Ministries offers free tutoring to children and youth on Saturdays.

The next step for the organizers will be to convene a series of meetings to discuss and analyze the solutions and develop action plans.

Volunteers were recruited at the meeting to participate in these discussion. The organizers will report back to the community on their progress in September 1996.

*Participants in the Town Hall Meeting identified the following issues and factors which contribute to youth violence:*

- unemployment and lack of training;
- lack of positive role models;
- crisis in the family structure;
- ineffective and lack of communication between youth and adults;
- current economic climate that has reduced opportunities for families and youth;
- social service dependency;
- lack of leadership by the church;
- the need to become more economically self-sufficient within our community;
- lack of motivation & self-esteem among youth; and
- negative media-defined image.

*Recommended Solutions*

- Parents to become actively involved in their children's education and the school system.
- Parents to take an interest in what their children are doing in school, in the malls, and on the streets.
- Develop more sustained partnerships among churches social service organization, other groups and individuals.
- Challenge the media to present a more balance image of Blacks in the media.
- Motivate Black males to assume and take responsibility of their parental role.

Akwatu Khenti, JCA Executive Director, addresses a Town Hall meeting on youth violence at Lawrence Heights Community Centre.



## Fundraising plan will take JCA forward

Norman Brown-Larro,  
1995 Fund-raising Chair

Well friends, my year as Fund-raising Chair is over. I worked with a great team and we had an incredible time, but all good things must end. I did not seek re-election to the Board because of other commitments. However, I intend to continue to work for the organization, and wish the incoming Chair every success with a first class team.

Kudos to the Board for obtaining this New Home for the community. It certainly is a great way to enter the 21st century. The immediate task before us is to work to raise the necessary funds to renovate the Centre as soon as possible. To do that we need "a whole heap a cocos people, because lawd de basket big" but we can do it.

### An Overview of 1995/96

#### The Community Walk-a-thon

We have witnessed a significant increase in the number of walkers over past years, and that is a good sign

because it means the community was listening and heard our call. There are hundreds of pledge sheets still outstanding and I would like to remind you that they are overdue. Please follow-up to ensure the money comes in now.

We will be honouring McDonalds Restaurants and Patty Palace with plaques for their generosity in feeding our walkers on Walk Day. We love our donors!

#### Fund-raising Plan

The Committee has developed a fund-raising plan we believe can take the organization comfortably into the next millennium. In our approach, we viewed the Centre as the "hub" of the Caribbean community, where things are happening all the time. Our plan also recommends:

- developing guidelines for fund-raising proposals;
- setting up a special Capital Fund-raising Campaign and Committee;

- raising the JCA's profile through more public relations and marketing activities;
- developing a donor constituency and providing plaques and other forms of donor recognition;
- a pledge drive, already underway and ending Aug.31, 1996;
- launching a bond issue on Sept. 1, 1996
- other income generators for the Centre, such as sports tournaments.

The full fund-raising plan is included in our report to the Annual General Meeting. Copies can be obtained from the JCA Centre, (416) 746-5772.

Finally, I would like to recognize the members of this fabulous committee that I was so fortunate to work with over the past year: Ann Murrell, Daphne Bailey, Linvor Mckoy, Worrick Russell, Rudolph Gibbs, Winsome Cameron and Bruce McDonald, Sadie Harrison and Vicky Nelson. I thank them for their many hours of work, over and above the call, that were required to get the job done!

Thanks to the following for special fund-raising for the Building Fund:  
JCA Staff  
JCA Seniors' Group  
Marylyn Amiel

### A Special Thanks!...to our 1995 donors

Haari Abou-Korrat	Bernie Daley	D. McDonald Sr.	Sheila Raymond
Marylyn Amiel	Violet Dennison	Frances McDonald	Minette Reid
Cyndi Anderson	Othlynn Frankson	Dr. Wm. G. MacRae	Maureen Richards
Bernice Bailey	Karl Fuller	Martha Massey	Betsy Richardson
Daniel Braithwaite	Eunice Graham	Cheneyere Ann	Alex Russell
Theo Briscoe	Sadie Harrison	Marville	L. N. Reynolds
Norma Brown-Larro	Marlene Hodge	Irma McLean	Jacqueline Scott
Lascalles Burnett	Inez Hylton	Arnold Minors	Eric Smith
Elaine Burton	Marblet James	Judith Murray	Louasca Smith
John Buttrick	Altamont Jacobs	Amy Nelson	Herman Stewart
J. B. Campbell	Marjorie Kenton	Ruby O'Connor	Barbara Thomas
Dorothea Carter	Courtney H. Larro	Eugenie Pearson	M. A. Thomas
Norma Clarke	Trevor B. Lewis	Pam Powell	Avil Vincent
Erma Collins	Lloyd Lindo	Sylvia Pusey	Miriam Watkins

## Social Committee Report

Barbara Thomas, Chair

We are into another fiscal year, and the committee wishes to thank everyone for their support and assistance over the past year. Even in these hard economic times your enthusiasm have prevailed. Keep up the good work!

The Annual Mother's Day Brunch was an overwhelming success. Special thanks to all who made it all possible during my absence. I was told the food was good, the entertainment "out of this world," and the guests delightful. Two thumbs up to the men who were in their usual "pomp and pride" as they wore their best attire and graciously served the ladies dinner.

I would also like to make special mention of the keynote speaker, our own Jamaican-born Pamela Appelt, Court of Citizenship Judge, and Jamaican Consul General Margarietta St. Juste. We were happy to have them in our company. We look forward to next year, when we hope to have the event in our own facilities.

### Upcoming activities

**Annual Picnic:** Sunday, July 7, 1996, at Bronte Creek Provincial Park. Carpool is encouraged and we are seeking donations to help defray the cost of the Pavilion and the cost of trophies for the children's competition. The Provincial Park fee is \$8 per car, or \$2.50 for adults/\$1.25 for children. To get to Bronte Creek Park: take the QEW West to exit 109 Burloak Drive, go North on Burloak Drive to the park entrance. We will be there to greet you. School buses (because of the short distance) will be available for those without other means of getting to the park,

### After school studies at Brook View

Sharon Kum

The JCA is currently providing extra academic assistance in Language Arts and Mathematic skills to grade seven students at Brook View Middle School. 19 students are benefiting from the program.

Students receive one hour of teaching help on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Because of the limited time available for JCA to provide teaching support, we have designed a program to encourage effective study by the students. This includes an incentive point system, homework, and trivia questions. The point system encourages and motivates students to work together. Periodically, the group with the most points wins a prize.

at a cost of \$12 for adults, \$10 for children.

**Independence Activities:** Annual Flag Raising and Church Service, on Sun., Aug. 4. Flag raising at 2 p.m. at Toronto City Hall. The church service will be at St. Michael & All Angels, 611 St. Clair Ave. West at 4:00 p.m.

**Dinner & Dance:** Saturday, Aug. 10 (Place to be announced)

**Fashion Show and High Tea:** Sunday, Oct. 13, place to be announced.

Please get your tickets in time, so that we can make the appropriate arrangements. Come out and support us — we are always happy to have you.

The Social Committee wishes you a healthy and happy summer.

### cont'd from page 3 Focus on change

Stop going to businesses that don't treat us with respect. Demand that other conscientious Black and non-Black consumers do the same.

Let us fill our minds now with the wonders of Black achievement and contributions to humanity. Fill it with details of Black scientific and architectural splendour, with our cultural genius and profound spirituality. As Marcus Garvey used to say: "Let earth and sky be your yardstick, and eternity your measurement. There is no height to which you cannot climb by using the active intelligence of your minds".

# Positive change will help us achieve our goals

**Sandra Carnegie-Douglas, 1st Vice-President**

As we start a new year in the Association I look forward to new challenges to be met and accomplishments to be made for 1996/97. Needless to say, 1995/96 has been a year of tremendous challenges for the Association. Funding cuts to social service programs, the status of the membership base, and the need to find a new property underscored an urgent need for the Board to begin planning a strategic direction for the Association.

In the fall of 1995, the Board convened a retreat to set the Association's strategic goals for the next two years. Discussion focused on reaffirming the mission/vision of the Association, Board governance, finance and fund-raising, social service and membership services, and the membership base. We identified seven goals to be accomplished for the Association by December 31, 1997:

- JCA is to be recognized by the Black and Caribbean community as their primary advocate, and as an active collaborator with other similar agencies;
- a JCA Centre: fully owned, accessible, located within Metro Toronto, accommodating youth, families, child care facilities, and seniors;
- JCA should become economically

- self-sufficient, generating revenue primarily from the community it serves;
- increase our membership base to 3000 active members;
- establish an active youth group;
- strengthen the Board work style to become more collaborative and directed; and
- focus the Board's function on policy development.

After the retreat, the Board identified the acquisition of a building/JCA Centre and strengthening the Board work style and function as two primary goals.

We achieved one goal by purchasing a new home at 995 Arrow Road. However, more work is needed to get the building in the form of a "Centre".

On the goal to strengthen board work style/function, we have begun by identifying the need for a Board Manual and revised orientation plan for directors. The manual will describe each director's function, obligations/responsibilities, descriptions of the Association's programs, mission statements. The intent is to provide a comprehensive document/tool to help directors understand and fulfil their roles. A work group is currently developing the manual and we intend to seek input from the membership prior to its completion.

*Continued next page*

## The JCA Violence Against Women Program

Services are free and confidential. Immediate appointments available. For further information, telephone:

Rita McLean,  
Counsellor,  
(416)746-5772.

## Join us for a Summer Jam Boat Cruise Friday, July 19, 1996

Tickets: \$32 before July 5  
\$35 after July 5  
Organized by a group of JCA members.  
Board: 7:30 p.m.  
Depart from Centre Island Ferry, Queen's Quay & Bay

Call (416) 746-5772 for tickets and for details.

## Positive Change cont'd from page 10

A joint initiative was undertaken by the Board and staff to develop an anti-discrimination/harassment policy to protect the Association's staff, members and clients. Further information on the policy will come in the next few months. Of course, much more work is required to further develop action and implementation plans to achieve the seven goals we identified at the retreat. The work in this area was significantly delayed as the Board dealt with other urgent matters this past term. Nonetheless, I believe that the goals developed at retreat reflect many of the views and sentiments I have heard throughout the Association.

In February I wrote to the membership about the need for positive changes within the Association that are crucial to our survival, strength and leadership. If we maintain the aforementioned goals, they will provide the framework to bring about the kinds of changes that need to happen. Even if we achieve at least half of them by December 31, 1997 we will be on our way to making some very positive changes in the Association and the community. For example, the goal of increasing our membership base in itself will require us to change our recruitment methods.

To reach our goals, it will be critical for us to connect with the wider membership and community, to access the abundance and diversity of talents, skills and ideas and resources that exist among our people.

I look forward to working with this current Board to build on the initiatives that the former Board began, and to bringing them to fruition.

Have a safe summer... nuff respect!



The JCA received a cheque for \$14,000 from federal Minister of Environment Sergio Marchi for the Centre's Youth Support and Family Program. Accepting the cheque were Akwatu Khenti, Executive Director and immediate past-president, Karl Fuller.

## Reminder: Membership Fees Due

Membership fee for 1996 is now due. If you have not yet paid, we would appreciate it if you would do so today. If you leave it for tomorrow, then tomorrow becomes the next day, and the next day goes into the next until the next year comes around, then you are in arrears for two years.

Please mail with your cheque or money order payable to: **The Jamaican Canadian Association, 995 Arrow Road, North York, ON M9M 2Z5**

Indicate clearly your membership number and/or your telephone number to make it easier to update your records.

Please note that the 1996 annual fees remain at \$20 for single membership, \$30 for family membership, and are valid until May 31, 1997.

## Pictures wanted!

In Focus wants to celebrate the milestones and achievements of our membership.

**We want photographs of:**

- your kid's high school graduation
- newlyweds
- one-year old babies
- sports and academic award presentations
- silver and golden wedding anniversaries

Send your pictures in care of: In Focus, The Jamaican Canadian Association, 995 Arrow Road, North York, Ontario M9M 2Z5. (Sorry, we cannot mail back photographs, but will be pleased to hold them for pick-up.)

### CALENDAR 96

Annual Picnic.....July 7  
 Flag-Raising Ceremony.....Aug. 4  
 Independence Service.....Aug. 4  
 Independence Dinner.....Aug. 10  
 New Years Eve Dinner.....Dec. 31

### Black CAP (416) 971-7588

The Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention is a coalition of Black community organizations who come together to address the issue of AIDS in our communities.

### CaribbeanCanadian Seniors Group

1122 Finch Ave. W.

Mon. Tues. & Thurs. 11 a.m.- 4 p.m.

We welcome all seniors who would like to get out and meet others.

#### Our activities include:

arts and crafts, choral group, discussions, seminars and field trips.

Come and meet people who will treat you like family and a friend.

For more information, please call us at 661-2001

### 1996 JCA BINGO SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Coordinator
July 12	7:15 - 9:15	N.L. Bailey
July 20	1:00 - 3:00	M. Amiel
Aug. 2	10:15 - 12:15	B. Carter
Aug. 17	7:15 - 9:15	N.L. Bailey
Aug. 24	1:00 - 3:00	M. Amiel
Aug. 30	7:15 - 9:15	B. Carter
Sept. 6	10:15 - 12:15	N.L. Bailey
Sept. 21	1:00 - 3:00	M. Amiel
Oct. 4	7:15 - 9:15	B. Carter
Oct. 19	10:15 - 2:15	N.L. Bailey
Nov. 2	1:00 - 3:00	M. Amiel
Nov. 9	1:00 - 3:00	B. Carter
Nov. 15	10:15 - 12:15	N.L. Bailey
Dec. 6	7:15 - 9:15	M. Amiel
Dec. 21	1:00 - 3:00	B. Carter

### SKILL FIT EMPLOYMENT & SERVICES

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